

ABSTRACT

A valve support and sealing element **23** for use with a filter cartridge is in the form of a molded unitary body (figure 2). The body includes

- (i) a first annular section **30** projecting into the filter hollow core **13** and having a sealing ring **33** for sealing with the end cap **53**;
- (ii) a second annular section **34** sealing with the end plate **17** at interface **35**; and
- (iii) a flange **38** radially projecting from the second section **34** to cover the inlet openings **19** to act as an anti-drainback valve.

The flange **38** includes radial ribs **42** that also extend axially on the first section **30** but are spaced from the sealing ring **33**. In operation, upon clogging of the media **14**, oil flows between the ribs **42** and the sealing ring **33** is deflected radially inwardly to provide a bypass for the oil.
